GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:208
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2016
FDI from Pakistan
Ninama Shri Manshankar

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Indo-Pak bilateral trade;

(b) whether the Government has permitted Investments/Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) from Pakistan in various sectors/activities, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this move is likely to strengthen trade ties between India and Pakistan, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve the bilateral trade between the two countries?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

a) to d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 208 FOR ANSWER ON 09TH MAY, 2016 REGARDING "FDI FROM PAKISTAN"

(a) The volume of trade of India with Pakistan during last two financial years is as under :
(In US$ million)

Year	Exports	Imports	Total trade
2014-15	1857.29	497.31	2354.60
2015-16 (Provisional)	2098.43	441.03	2539.46

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata

(b) &(c) With a view to promote bilateral investment and to remove impediments therein, the existing FDI Policy was amended in August 2012 to permit a citizen of Pakistan or any entity incorporated in Pakistan to make investments in India, under the Government route, in sectors/activities other than defence, space and atomic energy. Flow of FDI can strengthen bilateral relations and contribute to overall economic development of both countries.

(d) Steps taken to improve the bilateral trade, inter-alia, include:

(i) An Integrated Check Post (ICP) has been operationalized at Attari (Amritsar) to streamline the movement of trucks between India & Pakistan and significantly enhance the flow of trade through land route;

(ii) Agreements on redressal of trade grievances, bilateral cooperation and mutual assistance in customs related matters were signed during the 7th round of India-Pakistan talks on Commercial and Economic Co-operation held in September 2012 at Islamabad;

(iii) For strengthening business linkages between the two countries, Business Visas are being issued for a validity of up to 3 years with multiple entries to certain bonafide and prominent Pakistani businessmen.

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